

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199601291**

**Robinson Helicopter Co
R22**

21 April 1996

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Occurrence Number: | 199601291 | Occurrence Type: | Accident |
| Location: | 210km WSW Longreach, Aerodrome | | |
| State: | QLD | Inv Category: | 4 |
| Date: | Sunday 21 April 1996 | | |
| Time: | 0800 hours | Time Zone | EST |
| Highest Injury Level: | None | | |

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| Aircraft Manufacturer: | Robinson Helicopter Co | | |
| Aircraft Model: | R22 BETA | | |
| Aircraft Registration: | VH-JNQ | Serial Number: | 1321 |
| Type of Operation: | Commercial Aerial Mustering | | |
| Damage to Aircraft: | Substantial | | |
| Departure Point: | Connmara Station QLD | | |
| Departure Time: | 0700 EST | | |
| Destination: | Connmara Station QLD | | |

Approved for Release: Thursday, August 8, 1996

During a cattle mustering operation, the helicopter suffered a total powerloss at about 80 ft AGL. The resultant heavy landing spread the skids and the main rotor severed the tailboom. Both occupants were able to exit the aircraft safely.

Post flight examination found there was no fuel in the helicopter's tanks. The tanks were intact.

The pilot has not responded to a request for information.